

TITLEA PROCESS FOR MAKING A FLEXOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATE AND A
PHOTOSENSITIVE ELEMENT FOR USE IN THE PROCESSABSTRACT

5 The invention relates to a process for preparing a flexographic printing
plate from a photosensitive element having a photopolymerizable layer and a
thermally removable layer on the photopolymerizable layer. The process includes
imagewise exposing the photosensitive element and thermally treating the
10 exposed element to form a relief suitable for use in flexographic printing. The
thermally removable layer can be transparent or opaque to actinic radiation. The
invention also relates to a photosensitive element for use in this process. The
photosensitive element includes a photopolymerizable layer and at least one
thermally removable layer having a filler and a binder, wherein the binder is less
15 than 49% by weight, based on the total weight of the binder and filler.

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THM/dmm